cost of Rs. 1126.80 crores was posed to the World Bank on 13.8.2002 for financial assistance. The Project is at preparation stage.

Restoration of LTC for Central Government Employees

2714. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Leave Travel Concession (LTC) for the Central Government Employees may be restored to boost tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it would be extended once in four years for pensioners for encouraging inland domestic travel?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) LTC facility has been restored to Central Government Employees with effect from current block year 2002-2005 for any place in India and 2002-2003 for hometown.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Interest rate on advances to Self-Help Groups

2715. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for Public Sector banks charging 12 per cent interest on advances to Self-Help Groups;

(b) what is the total deposits of the Self-help Groups in the nationalized banks; and

(c) what are the details of advances to Self-Help Groups by the nationalized banks during the last three years, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Banks charge rates of interest on loans to Self-Help Groups (SHGs) within the overall instructions of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). While fixing the rates of interest banks take into account the cost of funds, transaction cost, risk costs and margin. However, as per the present instruction of RBI, commercial

banks should not charge interest more than their prime lending rates in respect of the loans extended by them upto Rs. 2.00 lakh.

(b) As reported by national bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), SHGs have an estimated savings bank balance of Rs. 220 crore with nationalized banks as on 31st March, 2002.

(c) The details of the cumulative amount of advances extended by Commercial banks to (SHGs) during the last three years, as reported by NABARD, are indicated below:—

(Rs. crore)

Positionas on	Cumulative amount of Bank Loan disbursed to SHGc
31-3-2000	127.83
31-3-2001	295.86
31-3-2002	562.90

Bank-wise details indicating the cumulative amount of advances to SHGs by nationalized banks as on 31st March 2002 are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Bank-wise details of the cumulative amount of advances made to Self-help Groups by nationalized banks as on 31st March, 2002

(Rs. crore)

S.No.	Name of Bank	Cumulative Bank Loan Disbursed
1.	Allahabad Bank	1.96
2.	Andhra Bank	101.57
3.	Bank of Baroda	18.91
4.	Bank of India	23.74
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	7.13
6.	Canara Bank	25.52
7.	Corporation Bank	8.47

(Rs. crore)

S.No.	Name of Bank	Cumulative Bank Loan Disbursed
8.	Central Bank of India	13.34
9.	Dena Bank	1.60
10.	Indian Bank	55.48
11.	Indian Overseas Bank	35.15
12.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	12.39
13.	Punjab & Sind Bank	0.39
14.	Punjab National Bank	8.31
15.	State Bank of India	146.16
16.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	1.65
17.	State Bank of Hyderabad	37.85
18.	State Bank of Indore	1.78
19.	State Bank of Mysore	2.59
20.	State Bank of Patiala	1.04
21.	State Bank of Saurashtra	0.61
22.	State Bank of Travancore	4.75
23.	Syndicate Bank	23.83
24.	Union Bank of India	16.81
25.	United Bank of India	1.13
26.	UCO Bank	3.93
27.	Vijaya Bank	6.83
	TOTAL	562.90

Budgetary support to PSUs

2716. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total budgetary support given to Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) what is the objective of the subsidy to PSUs regarding (i) installation of the plant (ii) payment of salary (iii) upgradation of technology (iv) expansion of plant or any other?